

P-PATCH COMMUNITY GARDENING PROGRAM

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE P-PATCH COMMUNITY GARDENING PROGRAM?	<p>The P-Patch Community Gardening Program is a program of the City of Seattle’s Department of Neighborhoods. It is open to all Seattle residents. Our staff partner with the P-Patch Trust, gardener and community volunteers and agencies to develop, manage, and support community gardens in Seattle. P-Patch Community Gardens are public space for all Community Gardening.</p> <p>Shared Values: Community building, reaching out to under-served communities, volunteerism, education, environmental stewardship, organic strategies, wildlife habitat, sharing, making friends, gardening, play, free expression, and creation and preservation of open space.</p>
ARE THERE DIFFERENT TYPES OF P-Patch COMMUNITY GARDENS?	<p>Yes. P-Patch Community Gardens can have individual garden plot rentals with some collectively gardened space. They can also be gardened collectively as a group with no individual plots. Some examples of collective community gardens are: orchards/food forests, giving gardens and one large space gardened together.</p>
WHAT SIZE ARE THE INDIVIDUAL GARDEN PLOTS?	<p>Garden plot sizes vary from garden to garden, typically they range between 40 and 400 sq.ft. Garden plot sizes are based on the overall garden size, existing demand the population density of neighborhoods and other programmatic goals.</p>
WHO CAN GARDEN IN AN EXISTING P-PATCH COMMUNITY GARDEN?	<p>When there are openings, staff assign garden participants based on the following guidelines:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Individuals and groups have first option to renew their space annually2. Individuals and groups who are current garden participants, have the option to move within and between P-Patches3. New individuals and groups who help meet the following program strategic goals have priority:<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ P-Patches reflect the diversity of their surrounding neighborhood.✓ P-Patches have adequate number of gardeners living directly from the surrounding neighborhood.✓ P-Patches assist populations underserved by the program. Currently, these groups include African-Americans, Latinos, Native Americans, immigrants and refugees, children and youth groups up to age 24, people who need to garden in an assessable raised bed and groups that serve seniors.4. Individuals and groups who are on P-Patch Interest Lists
WHO CAN GARDEN IN A NEW P-PATCH COMMUNITY GARDEN?	<p>New Gardens are built by community volunteers, staff assign gardening space based on the following guidelines: The total number of garden development volunteer hours is the principle basis for assigning gardening space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Volunteer hours can be earned through a variety of means such as physical labor, organizing, fundraising and administrative tasks for the garden development.✓ Other forms of payment may not be made in lieu of volunteer hours✓ Volunteer hours towards garden development can be accrued by a potential gardener, family members and/or friends✓ In order to meet P-Patch Strategic goals, we may reserve new plots for groups or individuals underserved by the program. In 2012, these groups are: African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans, immigrants and refugees, children and youth groups up to age 24, people who need to garden in an accessible raised bed, and children and youth groups up to age 24. <ol style="list-style-type: none">2. In the case of limited gardening space, newly opened garden interest lists begin with individuals who contributed volunteer hours for the garden’s development, but were not assigned gardening space. Subsequently, regular assignment guidelines apply.

CAN I VOLUNTEER AT AN EXISTING GARDEN WHILE I WAIT?	Maybe. It depends on the garden where you want to volunteer. Some gardens have more opportunities than others. Some examples of help most commonly needed: Giving Gardens, Youth Gardening, and construction projects. You can also volunteer with the P-Patch Trust. Check with the P-Patch office or the P-Patch Trust if you want to volunteer.
CAN I VOLUNTEER AT A GARDEN UNDER DEVELOPMENT?	Yes. New gardens can only happen with the help of community volunteers like you. Start by getting on the interest list for the garden being developed and check with P-Patch staff to make sure you find out how to get involved.
HOW MUCH DOES IT COST WHEN I JOIN THE PROGRAM	<p>Yearly gardener fees are collected when you become a garden participant and in the fall for the next year.</p> <p>Current Individual Plot Rental fees \$25 application fee \$12 for each 100sf gardened examples: 10 x 10 (100 square feet) - \$37 annual fee 10 x 20 (200 square feet) - \$49 annual fee 10 x 40 (400 square feet) - \$73 annual fee</p> <p>Alternative annual fees \$10 Accessible raised bed \$10 Collective garden participant</p>
WHAT IF I CAN'T AFFORD TO PAY?	<i>We do not turn anyone away for not being able to pay an annual fee.</i> The P-Patch Community Gardening Program partners with the P-Patch Trust to offer fee assistance to those that need it. You just need to ask. Contact the P-Patch Trust directly to donate to this cause.
WHAT CAN I GROW?	Any vegetables, small fruits, flowers or herbs you choose. Just remember if something grows fast and spreads you must contain it. No trees or shrubs allowed and some gardens have restrictions for additional plants that are invasive in that garden.
CAN SOMEONE GARDEN WITH ME?	Yes for individual plots. Please let staff and volunteer garden leadership know who they are and how to contact them. If the co-gardener wants to become the primary gardener they must have been co-gardening long enough to be assigned a plot.
CAN I SELL WHAT I GROW?	No. The sale of what you grow is only permitted though the P-Patch Market Garden Program, but sharing is always welcomed.
CAN I GIVE WHAT I GROW?	Yes. We encourage sharing what you grow with family, friends, neighbors, and those in need. Most P-Patches have organized giving to provide fresh produce for those in need. Some gardens also rely on individual gardeners to grow food in their own plots to donate. Check in with a specific garden to see what they are giving and how.
WHAT IS “ The P-PATCH TRUST”?	The P-Patch Trust is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that partners with P-Patch Program to acquire, build, preserve, and protect community gardens in Seattle’s neighborhoods. To get involved, contact the Trust at their voice mail 425-329-1601 or web site—www.pptrust.org.
HOW DO I SIGN UP?	<p>You can sign up by calling 206-684-0264 or email p-patch.don@seattle.gov. You can also sign up on-line at: http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/ppatch/signupPpatch.htm</p> <p>Provide your name, address, zip code, phone, email, top two garden choices in order of preference, and if you are a priority group.</p>
HOW DO I CONTACT THE P-PATCH PROGRAM?	<p>General Phone Line: 206-684-0264 call for copies of any documents mentioned above or to ask questions. To sign-up for an interest list by phone press 2.</p> <p>General Email: p-patch.don@seattle.gov</p> <p>General Website: http://www.seattle.gov/neighborhoods/ppatch/</p>



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